



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INTERAGENCY CLASSIFICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

March 29, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF

DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: WORLD WAR II DECLASSIFICATION

As you may know, the Nixon Administration has supported a program to review for declassification by 1975 all papers from the World War II period. Last year the National Archives and Records Service received appropriations for 100 people to work on this project.

While the progress to date has been good, the National Archives has only filled approximately half of the authorized positions, partly as a result of the government-wide freeze and partly because of the delays experienced in obtaining Top Secret clearances for its personnel.

We have been advised by the National Archives that the hiring process and the security procedures for safeguarding its records would be facilitated if Department Heads would authorize downgrading from Top Secret to Secret of departmental classified records now in the Archives or transferred there at a future date. This would shorten the period required for clearing employees on the declassification project and would ease handling of the records.

I would appreciate it if you could arrange to have this matter reviewed and if records can be downgraded to the Secret level, to so advise Dr. James B. Rhoads, the Archivist of the United States, so that he may take appropriate action.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John S. D. Eisenhower".

John S. D. Eisenhower
Chairman

Interagency Classification Review
Committee